HUMAN EVENTS

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News Section

Printed in Two Sections

That Second Place: Behind the GOP uproar over the necessity for Ike to run for re-election there ferments an even livelier, though less apparent, concern: who will be Ike's vice-presidential candidate? It's livelier because the GOP heads really feel little doubt about Ike running, many reports to the contrary. (Much of what goes on now about Ike is "shadow boxing.") But the chiefs of the party do want to get the No. 2 position all set.

Reason why: they recall the Democrats' brawl in the 1944 convention about who was to be Roosevelt's Throttlebottom. At the time, Democratic leaders knew FDR was a dying man. Today, Ike certainly isn't that at all. But there is sufficient talk about his reputed high blood pressure to make the leaders ponder the mortality of presidents over 65 years of age. "Something to think about — you can never tell."

Today, Nixon enjoys Ike's favor. But the left-wing of the party wants one of their own. This is so, especially within the ranks of the White House Palace Guard. That camarilla does not count the Californian as "their man"; he's too independent for them. They wonder what would happen to them just in case something did happen to Ike. They recall that almost every member of FDR's cabinet and personal staff had to retire to unhappy obscurity when Truman got under way as President. They believe that Nixon would clean house if he took over.

Who is the candidate today of the Palace Guard? Not surprisingly, it is Harold Stassen, Secretary for Peace and Disarmament. He is their man, because he is their creature — accepting the strategic policy moves they plan and mouthing the propaganda speeches they write for him. They got him the "Prince of Peace" appointment to the Cabinet. And naturally, the ambitious Minnesotan welcomes such powerful support.

Adenauer's Retreat From Moscow: Big question in the Capital today is: did the U.S. and Britain influence the German Chancellor to back down and accept a written agreement with Moscow in which the Soviets apparently scored a diplomatic victory? The answer along diplomatic row here is — The United States did not do so. In fact, it is privately known that, after the affair was over, Secretary Dulles told our German Ambassador to express American disappointment to Adenauer.

But, as to the British — the answer, from advices from London, is "yes." The British reportedly put pressure on Adenauer to conclude the pact reopening diplomatic relations with Moscow. This — it is believed here — at the eleventh hour softened the strong stand the German leader initially took towards such a pact. Up to the last minute, Adenauer was insisting — "No written promise to return German prisoners, no diplomatic relations." Then the Chancellor — his coatsleeve tugged by British hands — relented and accepted only an oral promise from Bulganin to send back the prisoners.

Big question now is about the German people's reaction to what went on. If Russia starts returning some of the German boys — Adenauer temporarily scores a popular success in his land. But Moscow can play a cat-and-mouse game. Washington believes there really are many more than the 9,000 prisoners Moscow swears is the total. Studies — based on many reports from refugees from behind the Iron Curtain — place the total as more than 90,000 remaining in Russian prison camps. On the other hand, if Russia welches on its oral promise to Adenauer, then the old man will be in trouble at home. He may have to break

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relations with Moscow, after having established them.

Budget: The current problem — how to balance the budget by cutting Defense appropriations — is pictured as painful, because of what are called "continuing commitments previously authorized." This means that Congress must appropriate money for orders given, here and abroad, for what are officially regarded as vitally necessary weapons. Insiders who pierce the veil of bureaucratic gobbledygook say that actually big cuts could be made in Defense appropriations without reducing the essential expenditures for long-range bombers, nuclear weapons and guided missiles. This is how they would do it:

They say that large amounts of the "continuing commitments" are for obsolescent weapons which should have been cancelled long ago and could be eliminated now without danger — save to the pocketbooks of armament factories. Many such obligations are for "foreign aid," that is for France, Britain and other western European countries. But the New Deal holdover bureaucrats — who believe in spending as an objective in itself — refuse to wield the knife. Secretary of Defense Wilson and foreign aid administrator Hollister would have to overrule the bureaucratic saboteurs of economy and ruthlessly perform the needed surgery.

It is claimed — by those who really want economy — that $1 billion in foreign aid, and $3 billion in domestic military commitments could be chopped off, with a resultant solution of the budgetary difficulty. Thus, if this solution were accomplished, the problem — currently described as insuperable — of reducing taxes next year while balancing the budget, would be solved.

Bricker Amendment: The secret history of the Ohio Senator's great constitutional proposal to protect American sovereignty is marked, in the past few months, by several developments instructive to those who are making a fight for its passage.

(1) Washington observers, at the time of the American Bar Association meeting in Philadelphia on August 25, wondered why there were no fireworks on the controversial measure. HUMAN EVENTS exclusively learns the following inside story:

The internationalists in the legal body some weeks before the meeting had a plan to force a vote on a proposal to rescind the ABA's long-standing endorsement of it. But, warned by those who knew the sentiments of the ABA House of Delegates, the leaders of the internationalist minority canvassed opinion among the "country lawyers" who had originally taken this stand and found that the latter were just as firmly as ever in favor of Bricker's bill. Taking stock of this situation, the internationalists feared that a test vote at the meeting would bring crushing defeat and that this would prove a "slap in the face" to President Eisenhower who was slated to address the Philadelphia affair. Therefore, they hastily and quietly cancelled their plan. This episode shows the strong adherence to the Bricker Amendment in perhaps the most influential professional group in the country.

(2) In June, President Eisenhower had decided to "take the Bricker Amendment out of the 1956 elections," because he believed that a number of GOP members of Congress (notably Senator Ferguson of Michigan) had been defeated in 1954 after they opposed or only weakly supported the famous Amendment. Therefore, he framed a compromise version of the Amendment with Senator Bricker (the terms of which, we have ascertained, were by no means satisfactory to such legal supporters of the measure as Mr. Frank Holman, ABA past-president). Bricker assumed that the matter was settled.

However, immediately after the Geneva Conference, when the President returned to Washington flushed with what he deemed the success of his parley, his advisers went to him and asked him to reverse his decision for the compromise Bricker measure. They said that, if the compromise was made public, our "European friends and allies" would regard the step as one which "tied the hands" of the President; thus, our "friends" would be hesitant to enter agreements implementing the new

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"spirit of Geneva." Whereupon, the President cancelled the compromise with Bricker.

The result today is that the Ohio Senator is again free to push his Amendment, undiluted by compromise, when Congress assembles in January — and friends say he will.

Fund For The Republic: The National Commander of the American Legion, Seaborn P. Collins, this week launched a strong attack on the Fund for the Republic (offshoot of the Ford Foundation), warning members of the Legion that the Fund is "threatening and may succeed in crippling the national security," and accusing the Fund of "constant, loaded criticism of congressional and Administration efforts to resist Communist infiltration." He said the Fund tries to persuade America that Communism is no danger to the U.S.

Literary Brainwashing: Liberal pundits this week busily tried to make over H. L. Mencken to suit their taste — and to impose a false "Mencken myth" for the record. Mencken, disabled from a paralytic stroke, celebrated his 75th birthday and the brilliant man who dominated the literary scene in the Twenties is the occasion for this piece of brain-washing. The pundits stress that Mencken was a rebel against censorship of novels thirty years ago and the businessman ("Babbit") of that era, as well as against prohibition. They completely ignore other crusades of Mencken, less to their taste.

The fact is that "The Sage of Baltimore" waged a bitter fight against U.S. entrance into World War I and afterwards did much, in his *American Mercury*, to debunk the propaganda version of that war. (He is the father of "revisionism.") Mencken's biography by William Manchester lays much emphasis on the persecution he suffered for these labors. Mencken's diatribes against Franklin D. Roosevelt were a feature of his polemics in the Thirties, and he strongly opposed our entrance into World War II. Finally, in 1948, Mencken excoriated the anti-anti-Communists and defended the rights of congressional investigators of Communism, at the time of the Hiss-Chambers case. Shortly after that, he suffered a stroke and has been unable to write since then. Old friends of Mencken and students of his work regret that the prevailing "literary liberals" have sought to censor the true account of his career.

Labor Notes: SUP (Supplemental Unemployment Pay) will cost the American Can Company five cents for every hour worked by a CIO employee. However, the benefits will go only to those laid off. An AFL union representing 4,150 skilled workers dealing with American Can has voted to reject SUP. Its members want the 5 cents an hour in their pay envelopes. Said the business agent: "Layoffs in the can-making industry aren't serious; it (SUP) just isn't worthwhile."

● The teamsters union is giving gasoline station owners in the Chicago district 24 hours apiece to sign closed shop dues-check-off contracts. Station owners who refuse will get no gasoline since teamster union members make all gasoline deliveries in the area. Employees are not asked their desires as to union membership, and if the station has no employees but is operated by partners, all but one of the partners must join the union. A bill to prohibit picketing where no labor dispute exists is in effect in several states and will be pushed at the next session of the Illinois legislature. Meanwhile, criminal action will be asked on the ground that the union is engaged in extortion.

Truman Scandals? Ruth Montgomery in the New York *Daily News* (September 10) reports: "The Truman farm (at Independence, Mo.) abuts the gigantic continental defense command which the Pentagon obligingly located there while Harry was President. The results are now beginning to show. The Democratic-controlled Congress this year voted huge appropriations to build permanent installations there, and a Kansas City source reveals that Truman has just sold 100 of his acres for a big new shopping center for servicemen's families. His remaining land, except for the section on which Truman's memorial library is to stand, should soon go for a fabulous price as city building lots."

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Atomic Energy: A Constructive Proposal, by David Shea Teeple. Duell, Sloan & Pearce, 124 E. 30th Street, New York, N. Y. Price $3.

This book is an argument for a new deal in government control of Atomic Energy. Certainly the bitter wrangles in and about the Atomic Energy Commission (about Dixon-Yates particularly) and the acrimonious controversy over presence of security risks in the set-up indicate that all is not well. Mr. Teeple asserts that an executive department within the cabinet structure should be created to take over the work done by AEC. The Commission, he shows with certainty, is a body without responsibility to either the President or Congress and shot through with quarrels and failure to get action because its responsibility is not fixed. Those who know Capitol Hill realize, even if the people do not, that a storm is brewing in the halls of Congress and that members ere long will proceed to regularize AEC within the political structure of the Government.

The author is therefore seeking to clarify the facts before the storm breaks. He clearly shows the enormous role the AEC wields in the fields of national security, foreign relations, health and welfare, agriculture, the federal-state system, civil defense and particularly in the domestic economy. Thus, he points out that in 1953, the congressional appropriation for the Atomic Energy Commission exceeded four billion dollars, which was vastly more than the appropriations for any executive departments save those of National Defense and of the Treasury. He shows how the tail of AEC wags the dog of the Defense Department, by laying down the requirements for U.S. nuclear weapon production. He points out how the AEC selected South Carolina for the Savannah River plant, which involved an investment of 1½ billion dollars of Government money. He says: "Locating the AEC Savannah River plant in South Carolina is the equivalent of moving the real estate, plant and equipment of the entire Bethlehem Steel Corporation to South Carolina, since their value is about the same."

Teeple sedulously leans over backward to avoid entering into the bitter personality and partisan quarrels which have arisen from AEC. But anyone may well wonder how it was that so many plants were located in Democratic states or regions where the Democratic Administration sought to keep power. Press observers here wonder how, despite the necessity for tight security on nuclear information, certain news-breaks appear in the columns of "liberal" publicists. The author, in a number of places indicates that the AEC has really been run, not by the Commission members, but by the bureaucrats under the General Manager. These bureaucrats, Washington knows, are largely New Dealers, usually Democrats. Like all bureaucrats, they are — in essence — responsible to nobody.

Hence, Mr. Teeple — basing his plea on the concept of a representative, responsible government — argues forcibly that the present atomic energy system in which there exists no constitutional responsibility be replaced by one adhering to the traditions of the Republic, by a Cabinet Secretary under the President. It's a difficult argument to rebut.

Your son or daughter in college needs HUMAN EVENTS to combat the collectivist doctrines to which he or she will be exposed. Also, the sons or daughters of your associates. Enter subscriptions also for their professors. College-year (8 months, October through May) subscriptions — $5.50 each.

Letter from MRS. JOSEPH MEDILL PATTERSON, widow of the founder of the New York *Daily News*: "I read HUMAN EVENTS unfailingly because it gives me news or amplifies news about matters in which I am keenly interested."

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Article Section

RE-EVALUATE THE VOICE OF AMERICA!

It Has Cruelly Misled The Satellite Peoples

By EUGENE W. CASTLE

THE TIME has come for a thorough re-evaluation of the need for U.S. overseas propaganda, including the Voice of America which broadcasts behind the Iron Curtain. If anything, recent developments flowing from the Summit conference can only be disheartening to the peoples of Soviet Russia and especially to the seventy millions in the Red satellites. These developments constitute a body blow to their hopes of eventual liberation from Red tyranny.

Perhaps, in this thermonuclear age, President Eisenhower had no choice but to go to the Summit, prepared "to conciliate, to understand, to be tolerant, to try to see the other fellow's viewpoint as well as we see our own." Perhaps Secretary of State Dulles has no alternative but to negotiate personally with the Chinese Red boss, Chou En-lai.

But it's doubtful that these developments have the approval of the peoples of the world, as Eisenhower indicated on his return from Geneva. As the President asserted, in his first post-Geneva speech, "I do know that the people of the world want peace."

This may be true of some of the world's peoples, but not all of them. The fact is, if we are to believe such seasoned observers of Soviet affairs as Eugene Lyons, the captive peoples behind the Iron Curtain, by and large, would prefer a war to a peace which would give their slavemasters a breathing spell in which to consolidate their hold on a shaky Red Empire.

SENATOR LEHMAN, an avowed one-worlder, for once was on firm footing when some months ago he bitterly assailed Republican propagandists for "cruelly" leading the enslaved peoples to expect "liberation, promising action, not words, and by action, they meant force. . . . When the promise was confronted with the facts of life, hopes that were kindled were just as quickly extinguished."

Meanwhile, Voice of America broadcasts, paid for by the U.S. taxpayer, are telling the enslaved peoples — those courageous few who dare to listen — that the U.S. is seeking a peaceful settlement of differences with Moscow and Peiping.

If anything, these broadcasts can only add to their despair. If only for the sake of humanity, they should be terminated immediately. Americans should quit tantalizing enslaved peoples with promises which our chief policy-makers have no intention of fulfilling.

Even before Geneva, the satellite peoples had grown weary of the Voice of America to judge from a dispatch from Prague transmitted by Robert C. Dix, co-owner of the six Dix dailies in Ohio:

> **"Many Czechs have quit listening," he reported. "It's like passing in front of a candy store every day with no money in your pockets. Finally, you come to the deadening realization that the candy is not for you. Then you quit looking. Finally you go to the other side of the street. Maybe some day you'll even forget that it's there."**

But there is a more tragic aspect to these Voice broadcasts. That concerns the hun-

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dreds of thousands of refugees who fled into West Germany because our propaganda had led them to expect a rich life in the free world. Instead, these refugees are cooped up in bleak camps, given only subsistence aid. They soon discover they're not wanted by West German authorities who have ten million of their own refugees to worry about.

Omer Anderson, of the North American Newspaper Alliance, writing from Munich last July 13, disclosed the startling success of the Communists in luring thousands of these refugees back to their homes. "This Communist-bloc campaign . . . is nearing the crisis stage," reported Mr. Anderson. "It is rapidly reaching the point where it threatens the entire Western propaganda program beamed at the Soviet Union and its satellites."

The West Germans take the position that since they were lured West by U.S. propaganda, the U.S. should assume full responsibility for the refugees. But, Mr. Anderson reported, "American propagandists tend to be cynical about the refugee plight," one of them explaining:

"We didn't invite all the refugees here. We can't take care of everybody who comes over. These people are more good to us — and to themselves — in their own countries fighting Communism than as bodies in the West."

True, our propaganda does not openly appeal to Iron Curtain citizens to defect. "But U.S. propaganda," according to Mr. Anderson, "with its milk-and-honey picture of life in the West as contrasted with poverty under Communism, naturally leads the recipients of this propaganda to conclude they should flee."

THE CYNICISM of our propagandists is matched only by their incompetence. Last March, for example, they fell all over themselves glorifying a Russian juvenile delinquent as a courageous anti-Communist defector. Seventeen-year-old Valery Lysikov, in trouble with his parents, had run away from home. Our propagandists staged press conferences for him, had him photographed for *Life*, broadcast interviews with him over the Voice of America. Finally, having savored of our soft drinks, juke boxes and Marilyn Monroe, the youth suddenly returned home. The episode made the U.S. the laughingstock of the world.

"Perhaps," observed one West Berlin newspaper, "it would have been better if the Americans had let this unripe fruit remain on the tree."

IT IS a widely known fact that the German people greatly admire us chiefly for our achievements under our free enterprise system. Konrad Adenauer was elected in 1948 to leadership on the basis of a program extolling free enterprise. However, the Socialist bias of some who are responsible for the mismanagement of the USIA was shockingly demonstrated in Voice of America broadcasts beamed to the German people immediately following Adenauer's victory at the polls. It may seem incredible but the Voice, paid for by the American people, actually deprecated free enterprise, asserting that it was on the decline in the United States. To prove that this was so, the Voice cited the TVA and other state-controlled projects as examples of the collectivism now rapidly superseding U.S. capitalism in America!

More recently, the U.S. Information Agency began the distribution in France of an eighty-page illustrated booklet which asserted that capitalism in the U.S. was a thing of the past. The apparent aim was to convince left-wing French workers, to whom capitalism is evil incarnate, that the U.S. system — or what the USIA represents it to be — has more for them in the long run than Communism.

In effect, the USIA conceded the Marxist dogma that capitalism was a system of exploitation and injustice.

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(The existence of this booklet would have been kept a secret from the American people but for the fact that a copy fell into the hands of Harold Callender, Paris correspondent of the *New York Times*, who reported its contents in a dispatch to his newspaper printed on June 26, 1955.)

The *Chicago Tribune* found it strange that our "propagandists should seek to make hay in Europe by running down the system of private ownership and management of property . . . which has insured liberty at home in the United States and made it possible for this country to pour billions of dollars into supporting state-managed economies abroad."

For this kind of harmful and provocative nonsense the United States Information Agency will spend, with supplements, about $100,000,000 during the present fiscal year. We spend more money on propaganda than all the nations in the Western world combined; yet we are more widely misunderstood and constantly more on the defensive than any other nation.

Obviously, something is totally wrong. Perhaps we've been trying too hard to convince other peoples of our goodness. Perhaps our propagandists, in their frantic efforts for survival in their jobs, generate misunderstandings.

IF THERE'S one country where no U.S. propaganda is needed at all, it is Austria. According to the Baltimore *Sun's* Howard Norton, the USIA had an easy job of it in Austria. "They did not have to aim any of their efforts at wooing the Austrians away from the Russians. The Red Army took care of that when they sent Mongolian troops to seize and occupy Vienna. . . . And by the time they had finished ravishing, robbing and terrorizing the city, they had created a legacy of hatred. . . ."

But, strangely enough, anti-Americanism is rising in Austria, reported Mr. Norton. Austrians are bitter over the contrast of their impoverished way of life as compared with that of the Americans in their midst. "The abundance of big American automobiles, shipped here at Government expense for the diplomatic, military and propaganda missions make the American luxury vastly more conspicuous."

Mr. Norton quoted a long-time American resident in Vienna as suggesting that "one of the best possible strokes of propaganda so far as Americans are concerned would be to cut down the amount they spend on propaganda — or at least the amount they spend keeping the propagandists comfortable."

OUR OVERSEAS profligacies quite often play right into the hands of Communist propaganda. Senator Clinton P. Anderson pointed this out when he opposed construction of the atomic "peace ship" proposed by the President. "This wasteful display of wealth for propaganda purposes," said the Senator, "can only help the Reds. Europeans criticize us now for showing off and throwing our money around. We shouldn't give them more reason."

ONE NATION where we could actually help ourselves by curtailing our ill-conceived propaganda excesses is India.

The Indians and their all-powerful government leaders deeply resent the activities of the USIA among the teeming masses, according to Bishop Leonard G. Raymond, stationed at Allahbad, India. The Bishop reports that "American publicity falls on the Indian people like water." In a recent communication to the Executive Director of the Catholic Relief Services, Bishop Raymond reported that food supplies sent to India by private American groups were doing a vastly more effective propaganda job for America than were "the official organs of U.S. publicity."

Bishop Leonard strongly appealed to our Washington policy-makers to give prompt consideration to the feasibility of diverting the major part of the funds which he has

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observed are now largely wasted by the U.S. Information Agency and putting these monies to work to enlarge the food distribution activities of private American relief groups presently operating in India. Bishop Leonard firmly believes that this offers the only safe and sure way to win friends for America in the land of Nehru.

The time has come to drastically curtail our overloaded Washington propaganda mill with its legion of press agents and their trouble-making gadgetry. The time has come for us to give the weary peoples of the world a rest from our incessant propaganda which, on numerous occasions, they have shown they don't want and deeply resent.

Moreover, millions of Europeans condemn our propaganda barrage as being based on the premise Europeans are naive.

The Communist Party of Italy once published a pamphlet extolling Soviet foreign policy and blaming the United States for the threat of war.

The USIA quickly issued a perfect replica of the Red pamphlet with the identical front page used by the Italian Reds. The cover, of *both* pamphlets bore Picasso's famed dove of peace. On the inside, however, the USIA pamphlet proved that Russia, not the United States, was the aggressor nation. Many rank-in-file Italian Communists, mistaking our pamphlet, with its exact reproduction of the Red product, dove and all, for the Communist-produced one, circulated quantities of the USIA booklet. And, for a change, it appeared that our propagandists had outsmarted the Communists.

But, strangely, even this bit of enterprise backfired on us because many thousands of non-Communist Italians strongly resented the propaganda joke, arguing that this effort suggested that we assumed the Italians were stupid and incapable of understanding and interpreting their own problems.

THE FACT is that the USIA has had a continuing record of failure. Last March, under questioning by the House Subcommittee on Appropriations, USIA Director Theodore C. Streibert was unable to cite a single foreign nation where this badly-conceived and costly propaganda nonsense had done America and Americans any good.

No wonder then that publisher Roy Howard, on his return from a round-the-world tour recently, bitterly castigated the U.S. Information Agency as "putting America's worst foot forward" and contributing virtually nothing to U.S. prestige abroad.

Mr. Howard said the situation was so bad that it warranted an immediate Congressional investigation. Such an investigation is long overdue. But, tragically, instead of listening to men who have a right to speak, the Congress actually increased the budget for this WPA for Mis-information by more than $11,000,000, in the face of the fact that during the fiscal year just ended, the USIA budget was deliberately padded to the extent of more than $50,000,000.

An increasing number of our own citizens are asking: "How can this occur in a Republican Administration that once promised, if elected, it would restore high integrity and a balanced budget to our Federal government?"

EUGENE W. CASTLE, founder of Castle Films, is the author of the best selling book *"Billions, Blunders and Baloney,"* a stinging indictment of the Voice of America and foreign aid. This book may be bought from HUMAN EVENTS for $3.50.

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